(*c*) In view of the first part of the answer to (*b*), this does not arise.

(*f*) the name of the "By-monthly" that paid the highest license fee;

(*g*) the maximum amount of license fee levied upon "Monthlies" in the State;

(*h*) the name of the "Monthly" that paid the highest license fee;

(*i*) whether there is any difference in the license fee levied in the case of newspapers of the same category: and

(*j*) why such distinctions or variations are made?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*j*) The information asked for is of a confidential nature and hence it cannot be given.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member whether orders are issued to the applicants for licenses for newspapers fixing up the fee?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): In that case why is the information I sought for in my original question treated as of a confidential nature?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have treated it as confidential.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Once the question has been admitted by the Dewan, does it lie with the Chief Secretary to say that the answer is of a confidential nature?

PRESIDENT: That point was raised previously on the floor of the House, and a ruling was given by the Chair that Government have the right to claim that the information is of a confidential nature.

As regards the President having allowed the question, the only point the President has to consider is whether the question is within the four corners of the rules regarding admissibility of questions. He is not concerned whether the question relates to a matter of a confidential nature or not. That is for the Government to say.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I rise to a point of order. Supplementary questions are asked for seeking further information. When it is said that the information is confidential, is a supplementary question in order?

PRESIDENT: No.

The Land Mortgage Bank.

10. ***MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla III*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount hitherto advanced by Government to the Land Mortgage Bank;

(*b*) whether there is any reserve fund for the bank and, if so, the amount of the reserve;

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(*c*) whether the Government have issued debentures as has been originally undertaken by them in their order No. 1914 Fl. dated 15th December 1931 ; and

(*d*) whether they have considered the question of the desirability of giving loans to the agriculturists on the security of landed properties to pay off personal debts as has been recommended by the Devadhar Committee ?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Sirkar Rupees 5,50,000 only.

(*b*) Yes. S. Rs. 2,471 Chs. 18 C. 5/B. Rs. 2,428 Chs. 8 C. 5.

(*c*) and (*d*) The answers are in the negative.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know the principle on which the reserve is fixed ?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : Government is advancing the whole money. (Cries of '*cannot hear*').

PRESIDENT : The Chair too has not heard his answer.

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : The Reserve is fixed on the principles that generally obtain in fixing reserves in commercial concerns viz, deducting working expenses from revenue : whatever remains goes to reserve, as well as for meeting interest, divident or profit.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : I have not heard the answer.

PRESIDENT : I think the question was why Government fixed Rs. 5½ lakhs and not Rs. 1 lakh.

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : I think the member wants to know the principle on which the reserve is fixed.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : My question is with reference to part (*b*). May I know from the member the principle adopted in fixing the reserve fund ?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : As the enquiry is about the purpose for which reserve is fixed, it is in order to meet unforeseen contingencies, losses, etc.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know why Government have not issued debentures as originally undertaken by them in their order ?

MR. C. S KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*) : Government do not consider it necessary just now to issue debentures. They have increased the allotment to the Bank from four lakhs to seven lakhs. The question of issuing debentures will be considered very soon.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*) : May I know why Government have not considered the desirability of giving loans to agriculturists on the security of landed properties to pay off personal debts ?

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MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAH (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Government will consider that question along with similar recommendations made in the Devadhar Committee's Report.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know whether Government have considered any of the recommendations made in that Report?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): The whole question is under consideration.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know whether the present system of not giving loans is causing hardship?

PRESIDENT: That is giving information. Next question, please.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether this reserve fund is set apart from the net profits of the Bank?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know what percentage is set apart as reserve fund?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Whatever is available after meeting the expenses is set apart as a reserve fund, Government getting the interest on the money advanced at a fixed rate.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Does the member say that the whole of the profit is being set apart as a reserve fund?

MR. C. S. KRISHNASVAMI AIYAR (*Ag. Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Report of the Standardization Officer.

11 ***MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI** (*Tiruvalla III*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they would place on the table a copy of the Report submitted by the Standardization Special Officer; and

(*b*) whether they would afford to this House an opportunity for discussing the Report submitted by the Standardization Special Officer?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The Special Officer was asked to deal with the Standardization of the salaries which was one of the main recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee appointed by Government in 1931. There was no need for any further report to be submitted. The details of the changes to be made in the scales of pay in the various departments were worked out under his supervision and Government orders revising the establishments have been issued. The revision of salaries has taken effect from the 1st Edavam 1110.

(*b*) This does not arise in view of answer to (*a*).

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): May I know whether the Standardization Special Officer consulted Heads of Departments before submitting his report to Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): NoSir.

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